

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /012 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:GTWOHIE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE NIACT

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 012721

TOSEC 281

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 188 ACTION SECSTATE INFO SAIGON, PEKING,
TAIPEI, HONG KONG, JAN. 20,

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0188

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY

EE.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CH, VS

SUBJ: PARACELS IN SECURITY COUNCIL

REFS: USUN 175; USUN 176; SAIGON 866

VIETNAM DEPUTY OBSERVER TY INFORMED US AFTERNOON JAN.
20 THAT GVN MISSION ON INSTRUCTION WILL ASK SECURITY
COUNCIL PRESIDENT JAN. 21 TO CONVENE MEETING OF COUNCIL
IMMEDIATELY TO CONSIDER PC "AGGRESSION" AND "URGENT
ACTION TO CORRECT THE SITUATION."

TY SAID THAT AT THIS POINT HE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT SAIGON HOPES
WILL BE ULTIMATE RESULT OF SC MEETING BUT SPOKE OF
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"TREMENDOUS REPERCUSSIONS" FROM ISSUE

IN VIETNAM. TY SAID GVN MISSION HAD ADVISED SAIGON TO PREPARE TO SEND DELEGATION TO NEW YORK TO DOCUMENT CURRENT SITUATION REGARDING PARACELS.

IN INFORMING MISOFF OF FOREGOING, TY WHO IS QUITE AWARE OF LIMITED PROSPECTS FOR SUPPORT IN SC, ASKED FOR USUN ASSERTION IN SC. MISOFF, WHO NOTED DURING CONVERSATION THAT USG TOOK NO POSITION ON PARACELS SOVEREIGNTY, PROMISED ONLY TO REPORT.

COMMENT: GVN PLAN TO TAKE PARACELS ISSUE TO SC RAISES OBVIOUS AND SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS FOR US. VIETNAMESE WOULD SEEM TO HAVE NO CHANCE OF FAVORABLE SC DECISION AND LITTLE PROSPECT OF ANY KIND OF ADVANTAGE. THE FURTHER THEY PRESS THERE CASE THE GREATER THE LIKELIHOOD OF VIETNAMESE HUMILIATION AND OF PROBLEMS FOR US. OUR SITUATION WOULD BE EXTREMELY ACKWARD EVEN IF VIETNAMESE HAD CLEAR LEGAL TITLE TO DISPUTED ISLANDS. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, WE ARE SEEKING TO SLOW DOWN SC PROCESSEES. THIS WILL GIVEN GVN MISSION TIME TO TAKE DIRECT SOUNDINGS AMONG SC MEMBERS AND REPORT RESULTS TO SAIGON. AS SEEN FROM USUN, IT IS VERY MUCH IN OUR INTEREST THAT SAIGON BECOME AWARE OF UNTENABLE POSITION GVN WOULD HAVE IN SC AND BE INCOURAGED TO CALL OFF OPERATION BEFORE GOING FORWARD.

TEXT OF GVN DRAFT LETTER TO SC PRESIDENT SEPTEL REPORTS
DRAFT TEXT OF GVN LETTER TO SC PRESIDENT.

SCALI

UNQUOTE RUSH

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